SYLLABUS

BIOC 611, Section 30 -Research Seminar- Fall 2014

I. Course-Level Learning Outcomes

Students taking this course will:

1. Attend our weekly lab meetings, at which each student takes their turn at presenting their current research results, and all participate in discussion of those results and planning for further experiments.

2. Develop an understanding of the fundamental principles of molecular genetics and bacteriophage biology, and of the specific research being done in our lab.

3. Develop an understanding of the principles underlying the experimental techniques being used in our lab.

4. Develop the ability to interpret data and draw conclusions therefrom.

6. Develop the critical and creative thinking skills that are the mark of a true scholar, by participating in, and listening to, critical analysis of the data being discussed.

7. Develop the ability to speak clearly and accurately, when describing experiments performed, data obtained, and conclusions drawn.

II. Grading.

Grading is Satisfactory or Unsatisfactory, based on regular attendance at and participation in, the weekly lab meetings.

III. Honor code.

Research is often a collaborative effort. This is particularly true in situations like ours, where students working in the same lab are often working on similar projects, which may use similar techniques. In such cases, you are encouraged to work together as much as possible, to minimize duplication of effort. For instance, you should feel free to utilize slides made by others in the lab for your Power Point presentations, which may be modified to fit your specific circumstances. The limitation on this is that you may only use somebody else's work if you completely understand it.

Honesty is essential for a research scientist**.** Research is often done privately, so nobody else is checking the data that you record against the actual data observed. There is a temptation to alter the results that you obtained to correspond with the results that you hoped for. In embarrassment at having made a mistake, there is the temptation not to record it, so no one will know. Anything like this is unacceptable. I and other members of the lab have to know exactly what happened, so that we understand your results accurately.

IV. Disability

Any student with a documented disability needing academic adjustments or accommodations is encouraged to speak with me before or at the beginning of the semester. All discussions will remain confidential. Students with disabilities should also contact Disabled Student Services in the Ley Student Center.

V. The instructor is Charles Stewart.

Office: Room W104, George R. Brown Building. Phone: 713-348-4926. Email: crs@rice.edu. I have no formal office hours, but you are welcome to come by at any time, or to make appointments for specific times.